

From: Marat A. Denenberg
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/17/02 11:39am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello. I was informed that the Justice Department is accepting comments on the Microsoft Corp. settlement/case. I just wanted to drop you a line and tell you that from my perspective, the entire fiasco was nothing more than a farce. Antitrust legislation was never meant to provide the Justice Department with an excuse to harass monopolies. Instead, its intent has always been to stifle stagnant market behavior. How in the world can one perceive the computer operating market as stagnant? Not only are new iterations to popular operating systems released yearly, but there are plenty of alternatives as well. Among them: Macintosh OS, BeOS, FreeBSD Unix, SunOS, Solaris, Linux (and all its incarnations), and of course Windows. But that's not all ... most of the time previous versions of operating systems compete with current ones. To make a long story short, perhaps the Justice Department should pay less attention to the whining of competitors who provide inferior products and more to the task at hand, which happens to be law enforcement.

- Marat